



~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



Vol. 17 Issue 311

Dec. 05, 2011

Prayer

Lord, I admit that I've been feeling pretty lonely in the situation I am facing right now. Even though my friends try to understand, they simply can't comprehend the emotional ordeal I am going through. But I know that You understand everything, Lord, so today I am asking You to step forward and assist me in my hour of need. Please stand at my side to help me, support me, and fill me with a fresh dose of the Holy Spirit's mighty power so I can victoriously overcome in the midst of this challenging trial. I know that with Your Presence and power at my side, I will win this fight of faith that I'm engaged in right now, in Jesus' name I ask it. Amen.
Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

Scripture

Genesis 27:1-46 (AMP)

1 WHEN ISAAC was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called Esau his elder son, and said to him, My son! And he answered him, Here I am. 2 He said, See here now; I am old, I do not know when I may die. 3 So now, I pray you, take your weapons, your [arrows in a] quiver and your bow, and go out into the open country and hunt game for me, 4 And prepare me appetizing meat, such as I love, and bring it to me, that I may eat of it, [preparatory] to giving you my blessing [as my firstborn] before I die. 5 But Rebekah heard what Isaac said to Esau his son; and when Esau had gone to the open country to hunt for game that he might bring it, 6 Rebekah said to Jacob her younger son, See here, I heard your father say to Esau your brother, 7 Bring me game and make me appetizing meat, so that I may eat and declare my blessing upon you before the Lord before my death. 8 So now, my son, do exactly as I command you. 9 Go now to the flock, and from it bring me two good and suitable kids; and I will make them into appetizing meat for your father, such as he loves. 10 And you shall bring it to your father, that he may eat and declare his blessing upon you before his death. 11 But Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, Listen, Esau my brother is a hairy man and I am a smooth man. 12 Suppose my father feels me; I will seem to him to be a cheat and an imposter, and I will bring [his] curse on me and not [his] blessing. 13 But his mother said to him, On me be your curse, my son; only obey my word and go, fetch them to me. 14 So [Jacob] went, got [the kids], and brought them to his mother; and his mother prepared appetizing meat with a delightful odor, such as his father loved. 15 Then Rebekah took her elder son Esau's best clothes which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son. 16 And she put the skins of the kids on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck. 17 And she gave the savory meat and the bread which she had prepared into the hand of her son Jacob. 18 So he went to his father and said, My father. And he said, Here am I; who are you, my son? 19 And Jacob said to his father, I am Esau your firstborn; I have done what you told me to do. Now sit up and eat of my game, so that you may proceed to bless me. 20 And Isaac said to his son, How is it that you have found the game so quickly, my son? And he said, Because the Lord your God caused it to come to me. 21 But Isaac said to Jacob, Come close to me, I beg of you, that I may feel you, my son, and know whether you really are my son Esau or not. 22 So Jacob went near to Isaac, and his father felt him and said, The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau. 23 He could not identify him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him. 24 But he said, Are you really my son Esau? He answered, I am. 25 Then [Isaac] said, Bring it to me and I will eat of my son's game, that I may bless you. He brought it to him and he ate; and he brought him wine and he drank. 26 Then his father Isaac said, Come near and kiss me, my son. 27 So he came near and kissed him; and [Isaac] smelled his clothing and blessed him and said, The scent of my son is as the odor of a field which the Lord has blessed. blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed. 28 And may God give you of the dew of the heavens and of the fatness of the earth and abundance of grain and [new] wine; 29 Let peoples serve you and nations bow down to you; be master over your brothers, and let your mother's sons bow down to you. Let everyone be cursed who curses you and favored with blessings who blesses you. 30 As soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob and Jacob was scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, Esau his brother came in from his hunting. 31 Esau had also prepared savory food and brought it to his father and said to him, Let my father arise and eat of his son's game, that you may bless me. 32 And Isaac his father said to him, Who are you? And he replied, I am your son, your firstborn, Esau. 33 Then Isaac trembled and shook violently, and he said, Who? Where is he who has hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate of it all before you came and I have it all before you came and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.

Worship Music

[Christmas is Christ](#)

[The Night Christ Was Born-Kirk Franklin](#)

[Son Of God-Michael W. Smith](#)

[Adore Him-Kari Jobe](#)

[O Holy Night-Kari Jobe](#)

Radio Stations

[KWVE ...Calvary Chapel](#)

[KLOV](#)

Bible Study Sites

[Chuck Smith Through The Bible](#)

[Bob Coy/Teachings](#)

[Mike MacIntosh](#)

[Jon Courson](#)

[Biblos.com](#)

[Billy Graham](#)

[Charles Stanley](#)

[David Wilkerson](#)

[Greg Laurie](#)

[Virtue for Women-Cathe Laurie](#)

34 When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with a great and bitter cry and said to his father, Bless me, even me also, O my father! 35 [Isaac] said, Your brother came with crafty cunning and treacherous deceit and has taken your blessing. 36 [Esau] replied, Is he not rightly named Jacob [the supplanter]? For he has supplanted me these two times: he took away my birthright, and now he has taken away my blessing! Have you not still a blessing reserved for me? 37 And Isaac answered Esau, Behold, I have made [Jacob] your lord and master; I have given all his brethren to him for servants, and with corn and [new] wine have I sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son? 38 Esau said to his father, Have you only one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father! And Esau lifted up [could not control] his voice and wept aloud. 39 Then Isaac his father answered, Your [blessing and] dwelling shall all come from the fruitfulness of the earth and from the dew of the heavens above; 40 By your sword you shall live and serve your brother. But [the time shall come] when you will grow restive and break loose, and you shall tear his yoke from off your neck. 41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father blessed him; and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are very near. When [he is gone] I will kill my brother Jacob. 42 These words of Esau her elder son were repeated to Rebekah. She sent for Jacob her younger son and said to him, See here, your brother Esau comforts himself concerning you [by intending] to kill you. 43 So now, my son, do what I tell you; arise, flee to my brother Laban in Haran; 44 Linger and dwell with him for a while until your brother's fury is spent. 45 When your brother's anger is diverted from you, he will forget [the wrong] that you have done him. Then I will send and bring you back from there. Why should I be deprived of both of you in one day? 46 Then Rebekah said to Isaac, I am weary of my life because of the daughters of Heth [these wives of Esau]! If Jacob takes a wife of the daughters of Heth such as these Hittite girls around here, what good will my life be to me?

Genesis 27. Jacob Gets His Father's Blessing

Jacob had already bought the birthright from Esau (25:31–34). It was now necessary to get his father to validate the transfer by receiving the corresponding blessing. This he accomplished by deception. In evaluating the moral quality of Jacob's act, a number of things need to be considered:

- (1) his mother put him up to it;
- (2) he wanted the birthright because it was the channel of God's promise of blessing to the whole world;
- (3) with only his human understanding, he thought there was no other way to obtain it;
- (4) Esau cared nothing for it;
- (5) Jacob paid dearly for his fraud (see under Genesis 29);
- (6) God Himself, laying the foundation of His plans for the world (Romans 9:10–13), made the choice before the boys were born (Genesis 25:23).

Isaac's predictions (27:29 , 40). God must have put these words into Isaac's mouth, for they did come true. Jacob's descendants did gain a dominant position among the nations and in time produced Christ. Esau's descendants, the Edomites, were subservient to Israel; in time they did throw off Israel's yoke (2 Kings 8:20–22); and they have disappeared from history. (Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History & Commentaries; pages 120-121)

The Substitution: V 38 Esau wept for the loss of the material blessings, but he did not seek the blessings of God on his life (Hebrews 12:17). V 40 Esau's descendants were the Edomites who were under the dominion of the Israelites for a time but finally revolted. The Herodian kings in the New Testament were the last known Edomites. (Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; Chuck Smith; 2005; commentaries; page 15)

When Isaac was old and sick, his son Jacob deceived him into thinking that he (Jacob) was his brother Esau (see Genesis 27:30-32). That way, Jacob tricked Isaac into giving him the birthright that should have gone to Esau. Have you, like Isaac, ever been deceived by someone? Have you forgiven that person?

If No One Else Will Stand by You, The Lord Will Come to Your Assistance

2 Timothy 4:16

It is a heart-rending experience when friends let you down or when someone you thought to be faithful disappoints you. If this has ever happened to you, you know how upsetting this kind of situation can be. Yet this is precisely what happened to Timothy when he was serving as the senior pastor of the church in Ephesus. Leaders he thought would be faithful to the end had apparently walked out and left him in a moment of trouble. The hurt and pain Timothy felt from being abandoned by those he had trusted was so intense that he had written to Paul about it. If you have ever felt betrayed by someone you loved, you should relate very well to the words the apostle Paul wrote in Second Timothy 4:16. Paul is referring to the time he stood before the Roman imperial court to be tried for the first time. In that moment when he needed friends to testify in his defense, Paul turned to see who would testify on his behalf—only to discover that every one of his friends had walked out and abandoned him. Now as Paul writes to Timothy to encourage him to stand strong in his own ordeal, he recalls that extremely difficult time when those close to him chose to walk away. Paul says, "At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge." The word "answer" is the Greek word *apologia* which is a compound of the words *apo* and *logos*. In this case, the word *apo* means back, and the word *logos*

is the Greek word for a word. When compounded, it means to answer back and depicts a reply, a response, or an answer. It was the old word used to describe a court trial where the accused was given an opportunity to respond to the charges brought against him. Paul says, "At my first answer no man stood with me...." The word "stood" comes from the Greek word *paraginomai*. It is a technical term used to describe a witness who stands forward in a court of law to support a prisoner. By selecting this word, Paul makes his point clear: When he desperately needed the support of fellow believers, not one single friend stood forward to testify in his defense. When he turned and looked to see who would be his witness, all his friends were gone! In fact, Paul goes on to say, "... But all men forsook me...." The word "forsook" in Greek is from the word *egkataleipo*, which is a compound of the words *ek*, *kata*, and *leipo*. The word *ek* means out; the word *kata* means down; and the word *leipo* means to leave or to forsake. But when all three of these words are joined to form a triple-compound word, the new word carries the idea of walking out on someone; leaving someone in a terrible condition; abandoning a person at the worst possible moment; and deserting a person in the most terrible way. In other words, it conveys the idea of abandonment. By using this wretched word, Paul is saying, "Not only did they not come forward to support me and stand with me—they walked out on me and abandoned me at the worst possible moment!"

You'd think these horror stories would have made Paul bitter; however, there isn't a trace of bitterness in the apostle. He has learned a marvelous secret: When no one else will stand with you, the Lord will always come forward to stand alongside you, support you, and help you. Continuing in verse 17, Paul says, "Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion." First, Paul says, "... The Lord stood with me...." This word "stood" is the Greek word *paristemi*, which means to stand by one's side. By using this word, Paul tells you that Jesus Christ is not ashamed of any faithful soldier. When no one else will come to your aid, Jesus Christ is always there to rescue you. Jesus will step forward to assist you and defend you when your friends and family have all bailed out!

Second, Paul says the Lord "strengthened" him. The word "strengthened" in the Greek is *endunamoo*, which always refers to an empowerment or an inner strengthening. It is a compound of the words *en* and *dunamis*. The word *en* means in. The word *dunamis* means explosive strength, ability, and power. It's where we get the word dynamite. Thus, this word *endunamoo* presents the picture of an explosive power that is being deposited into some type of container, vessel, or other form of receptacle. The very nature of this word *endunamoo* means that there necessarily must be some type of receiver into which this power can be deposited. What does this tell us? In that moment when Paul felt so abandoned, he received a supernatural infilling of divine power that literally supercharged him to bravely and victoriously face one of the most difficult times in his life. The moment Paul discovered he had no friends to lean on was the exact moment that the power of God filled him anew and made him supernaturally strong for the ordeal he was facing.

This was good news for Timothy—and for every other believer who ever feels abandoned and let down by friends. If anyone needed to be reminded that the Lord would stand by him and strengthen him in the midst of every crisis, it was Timothy. The young minister desperately needed a fresh infilling of God's power so he could victoriously walk through the ordeal that lay before him.

Just as God supernaturally strengthened Paul at a time when the apostle felt hurt and betrayed, God promised to do the same for Timothy in his hour of need. And God hasn't changed; He is still not a respecter of persons. If He did it for Paul and Timothy, He will do the same for you today!

Are you facing a disturbing situation today? Has something happened to make you feel lonely and abandoned by those you thought would be faithful to stand by your side? If this is the case, it's time for you to ask Jesus to stand by your side. If you will ask Him for help, He will step forward to assist you, befriend you, and fill you with the power you need to victoriously conquer this difficult time in your life. So why don't you go ahead and ask the Lord to help you today?

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

Can you think of several instances in your life when you felt extremely weak, but then Jesus Christ came alongside you and filled you with all the strength you needed to victoriously make it through the predicament you were facing?

Do you know a friend who is struggling right now and feeling very abandoned? If so, why don't you demonstrate your love to that friend today by taking the time to share how Jesus strengthened you in your past times of crisis? Your testimony may be the very thing that encourages your friend to let the Lord step forward as his Helper in his time of need.

When you were facing those hard times and the Spirit of God filled you with His power, how did you know that He had touched you? What was the immediate change you felt that let you know God had just given you a new infilling of His Spirit?

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.